

KILLING LEADERS AND HOW TO DEAL WITH THE EVENT

By Professor 'Abdullah al-'Adam

May Allah have mercy on him

■ One of the things that must be rooted in the heart of every Mujahid in the path of Allah and which must be an inherent temperament and a character that he imbibes wherever he is and wherever he goes, is that the religion of Allah the almighty is not dependent on persons and is not established on organisations no matter how high their status and how famous their reputations, but it is a religion which establishes itself and is supported without any doubt, it does not regress with the death of a preacher, nor become weak with the martyrdom of a leader. Allah the almighty is certainly the Disposer of its support and establishing. Allah the almighty says, { They want to extinguish the light of Allah with their mouths, but Allah will perfect His light, although the disbelievers dislike it. It is He who sent His Messenger with guidance and the religion of truth to manifest it over all religion, although those who associate others with Allah dislike it. }¹

And Allah the almighty has certainly exhorted us in His noble Book and clarified to us the reality of the work for this religion, and that this religion is not dependent on a person, even though this person was the most noble of the whole creation, our illustrious master to Allah: Muhammad ibn 'Abdillah - Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him -. Allah says warning, reminding and guiding, { Muhammad is not but a messenger. [Other] messengers have passed on before him. So if he was to die or be killed, would you turn back on your heels? And he who turns back on his heels will never harm Allah at all; but Allah will reward the grateful. }²

1 As-Saff: 8-9

2 Aal-Imran: 144

Sheikh As-Sa'di - May Allah have mercy on him - said in his tafseer, *"His saying, { Muhammad is not but a messenger. [Other] messengers have passed on before him. ...} means: He is not an innovation among the Messengers but of the kind of Messengers before him, whose task was to convey the messages of their Lord and carry out His commands. They are not eternal and their stay is not a condition of obedience to the commands of Allah, it is obligatory for the nations to worship their Lord at all times and in all circumstances. Hence He says, { ... So if he was to die or be killed, would you turn back on your heels?... } forsaking what has come to you of faith or Jihad, or other. { ... And he who turns back on his heels will never harm Allah at all; ... } and only harms his own self. Surely, Allah the almighty will dispense with him, He will establish His religion and will strengthen His believing servants. And when He the almighty rebukes these who turned back on his heels, He praises these who remained steadfast with His Messenger and obeyed the command of His Lord, He says indeed, { ... but Allah will reward the grateful. } and gratitude is present only by being submissive to Allah the almighty in all circumstances."*

Then he defined - May Allah have mercy on him - the state in which every preacher of call should be and the characteristic of which every communicator of message and transmitter of divine deposit should be qualified. He said - May Allah have mercy on him -, *"And there is in this noble verse a directive from Allah the almighty to His servants that they should be in a state where the loss of even an important leader does not shake them as to their faith or some of its imperatives. And this is achieved only by preparing for each of the affairs of religion a number of people from among those fit for it, so that when one of them falls, another takes his place. Also the aim of all the believers should be the establishment of the religion of Allah and the performance of Jihad for it according to the capacity, not that their aim should be a leader rather than another. With this state, their affair will be established and their affairs will be in order."*

Chapter : The state in which the Mujahid should be in when he loses a leader or someone important and obedient, is to adorn himself with patience, tranquility and dignity, and to praise Allah the almighty, and to ask Him for patience, relief and reward in the trial, and that Allah compensate for what has been taken from the Mujahideen and the Muslims by better. And it is not appropriate for him to show anguish and anger, nor should anything improper emanate from him, especially if he is among

those who order and forbid, or those who are pointed at, but it is obligatory for him to make his brothers patient and remind them of Allah, and to remind them of the worse misfortune: the death of the noble Prophet - Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him -. Let him be unperturbed, resolute and perceptive. And let him in Abu Bakr as-Siddeeq the excellent example and the best model. Sheikh Al-Islam ibn Taymiyyah - May Allah have mercy on him - said, *"So when the Prophet - Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him - died, the worse misfortune that had ever befallen the Muslims fell upon them, so much so that their minds were affected and their spirits dizzy. They were shaken like the shaking of ropes in a deep well, and he denied his death, and he became paralyzed, and he was stunned and did not recognize the one who passed before him and the one who greeted him; and they burst into tears and fell upon a reproduction of the resurrection as if it were a small resurrection from the great resurrection. And the majority of the Bedouins apostatized from the religion and their braves debased themselves. Then As-Siddeeq - May Allah be pleased with him - stood up with a firm and courageous heart, he did not grieve, did not abdicate and patience and certainty had been gathered in him, and he informed them of the death of the Prophet - Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him - and that Allah had chosen for him what is with Him, and he said to them, "The one who worshipped Muhammad, Muhammad has certainly died. But the one who worshipped Allah, Allah is alive and does not die. And { Muhammad is not but a messenger. [Other] messengers have passed on before him. So if he was to die or be killed, would you turn back on your heels? And he who turns back on his heels will never harm Allah at all; but Allah will reward the grateful. }*" And it was as if the people had not heard this verse until As-Siddeeq recited it, and you could not find anyone unless he recited it. Then he harangued them, strengthened them and encouraged them. Anas said, "Abu Bakr - May Allah be pleased with him - harangued us when we were like foxes, and he kept encouraging us until we were like lions."

Surely, with such men, hearts are strengthened, resolutions are raised, life spreads in the limbs of the body and glories are shaped, and every monotheist realises that this religion has a Lord who preserves it, that this community is a well-fruitful community and that this religion has men known only to Allah the almighty and that He surrounds them with His care. Let not despair enter the heart of any of you if a leader has fallen, or a Mujahid has gone, or the hand of death has chosen a

monotheist preacher. And how beautiful is the word of the poet,

If a leader among us disappears, a leader rises
saying what the nobles have said and doing it.

And let the blood sacrificed by this preacher or leader be a fire fanning your inside, with which you burn the enemies of Allah, and a propelling fuel to sustain this religion, and a light with which you guide yourself to reach what the previous one has reached. And this is the testimony of real love if you are serious in your love and sincerity towards the people of merit. Meditate on this regarding the deeds of the Companions - May Satisfaction of Allah be upon them - after the death of the noble Prophet - Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him -, you will find that what we have entrusted to you is credible. And Allah is the One who grants success for every good, and He is Sufficient for us, and He is the best Disposer of affairs.

Chapter : And along this long and bloody road, it may be that some of the symbols of Dawah and Jihad may be stricken with weakness and dejection, and that the love of this world and the revulsion of death may have overtaken them, and the love of this world may take the upper hand over them, so they regress and turn back, and wash their hands of Dawah and Jihad after having been its banners and symbols, and one of them pass into the ranks of the opposite shore to Jihad and the Mujahideen. We ask Allah's forgiveness and salvation for us and our brothers, for what we have mentioned maybe it will happen or it happened, and there is no power and strength except in Allah. It is therefore incumbent upon the Mujahid in this situation to put before his eyes the word of Allah the almighty, { **Follow, [O mankind], what has been revealed to you from your Lord and do not follow other than Him any allies. Little do you remember. }**³

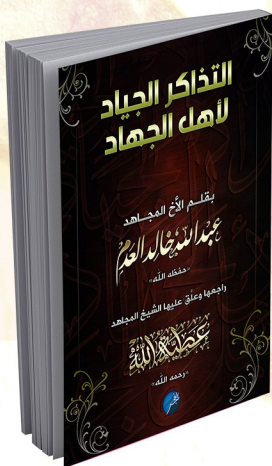
Sheikh Al-Islam - May Allah have mercy on him - said, *"He has ordered to follow what He has revealed and has forbidden what goes against it, (i.e.) following allies besides Him. And he who did not follow the one has followed the other, and therefore He*

3 Al-A'raaf: 3

says, { ... and follows other than the way of the believers ... }⁴. The scholars have said that he who has not followed their path has followed other than their path, and they have concluded from this that following their path is an obligation, so it is not for anyone to deviate from what they are unanimous about."

So when something happens to the Mujahid, let him submit it to the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Prophet - Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him -, for in these two is the clear guidance. And let him resolve not to rely on people, and let him not hang his fate on anyone, and surely covenant and attachment are the measure of faith. And let his motto on this long path be "Men are known by the truth, not the truth is known by men". And Allah is the One who guides and grants the right path.

4 An-Nisaa: 115



From the book " AT-TADHAAKIR AL-JIYAAD LI-AHL AL-JIHAAD "
(THE GOOD REMINDERS FOR THE PEOPLE OF JIHAD)



[AL-KIFAH MEDIA]